## LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A compound of formula (I):

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

1/-

R<sup>1</sup> denotes 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl,

 $R^2$  denotes hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl,  $\omega$ -hydroxy- $C_2$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl or  $C_3$ - $C_6$ -cycloalkylmethyl,

Ar denotes unsubstituted phenyl or phenyl which is 1- to 5-substituted by halogen, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-fluoroalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-fluoroalkoxy or -OCH<sub>2</sub>O-;

R<sup>3</sup> denotes phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, wherein the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are selected from halogen, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-fluoroalkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-fluoroalkoxy;

and

 $R^4$  denotes hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl,  $CH_2COOH$ , -  $CH_2C(O)NH_2$ , -OH or phenyl- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl .

- 2. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl.
- 3. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl.
- 4. (Original): A compound according to claim 2, wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl.

- 5. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.
- 6. (Original): A compound according to claim 2, wherein R<sup>3</sup> denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.
- 7. (Original): A compound according to claim 3, wherein R<sup>3</sup> denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.
- 8. (Original): A compound according to claim 4, wherein R<sup>3</sup> denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.
- 9. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is 2-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)-ethyl.
- 10. (Original): A compound according to claim 2, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is 2-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)-ethyl.
- 11. (Original): A compound according to claim 3, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is 2-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)-ethyl.

## US APPLN. NO. 09/981,025 AMENDMENT

12. (Original): A compound according to claim 4, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is 2-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)-ethyl.

13. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, wherein the group -NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup> is

14. (Original): A compound according to claim 2, wherein the group -NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup> is

15. (Original): A compound according to claim 3, wherein the group -NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup> is

## US APPLN. NO. 09/981,025 AMENDMENT

16. (Original): A compound according to claim 4, wherein the group -NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup> is

## Claims 17-20 (Cancelled)

21. (previously presented): A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> denotes a 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and R<sup>2</sup> denotes a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>-alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

22. (previously presented): A compound according to claim 2, wherein  $R^1 \ denotes \ a \ 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl \ group, \ and$   $R^2 \ denotes \ a \ hydrogen \ atom, \ a \ C_1-C_3-alkyl \ group \ or \ a \ 2-hydroxyethyl \ group.$ 

23. (previously presented): A compound according to claim 3, wherein  $R^1$  denotes a 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and  $R^2$  denotes a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_3$ -alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

24. (previously presented): A compound according to claim 4, wherein  $R^1$  denotes a 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and  $R^2$  denotes a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_3$ -alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

25. (previously presented): A compound having the following formula:

26. (Original) A process for preparing a compound of formula I according to claim 1, said process comprising reacting an amide of formula II

$$X \xrightarrow{H} Ar$$
  $R^3$  (II)

wherein Ar, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as defined in claim 1 and X denotes a suitable leaving group,

with a piperidine of formula III

$$R^{1}$$
 $N-H$ 
 $(III)$ 

wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are as defined in claim 1, in an inert solvent in the presence of a base.

- 27. (Original): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and excipients.
- 28. (Canceled)
- 29. (currently amended): A method-according to claim 28, wherein the of treating an illness treated is selected from inflammatory and allergic conditions of the airways, eyes, skin, the gastro-intestinal tract, joints, bones and bladder; and central nervous system diseases comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
- 30. (currently amended): A method according to claim 28, wherein the of treating an illness treated is selected from the following: asthma, chronic bronchitis, hyperreactive airways, emphysema, rhinitis, COPD, pulmonary hypertension, cystic fibrosis, coughs; conjunctivitis, iritis;

dermatitis in contact eczema, neurodermatitis, pruritus, urticaria, psoriasis, sunburn, burns, insect bites, rosacea, itching, sensitive or hypersensitive skin; gastric and duodenal ulcers, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, irritable colon, Hirschsprung's disease, motility problems; rheumatoid arthritis, reactive arthritis, arthrosis, osteoporosis and Reiter's syndrome; irritable bladder, incontinence, urinary urgency, urethritis, colic and cystitis; restless leg syndrome;

dementia, Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, psychoses, anxiety states, alcohol or drug dependency, sexual dysfunctions, eating disorders, depression, headaches, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, stroke;

Herpes zoster, postherpetic pain, tumors, collagenoses, a dysfunction of the deferent urinary tracts, haemorrhoids, nausea and vomiting, and pain,

comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1

- 31. (original): A method according to claim 29, wherein the illness is selected from: COPD, anxiety states and depression.
- 32. (previously presented) A compound having the following formula: